A Day in the Life of a Hawk

In Hawk Rising, we experience a day in the life of a hawk family. Describe how
this day goes. How do hawks wake up and show they are hungry? How do they search
for their food? What do they hunt for at different points in the day? How can you show
the different times of the day in your writing? What do the hawks do at night?

Counting on Katherine: the Importance of Curiosity

In <i>Counting on Katherine</i> , Katherine Johnson's curiosity and ambition help her get a job at NASA and help her save astronauts' lives. What are you curious about? What do you want to learn more about? Why are you curious about this topic? What do you dream of becoming when you grow up, and how might curiosity help you achieve this dream?		
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Counting on Katherine: Using Math to Solve Real World Problems

In Counting on Katherine, Katherine Johnson used calculation and her extensive knowledge of math to help John Glenn safely orbit the earth and to bring the Apollo 13 astronauts safely home. What kinds of everyday problems can you solve with math? How can math help you and what can you use it for outside of school? What kinds of careers use mathematics on a regular basis?		

Design a Pair of Potato Pants

Pretend you are designing a pair of Potato Pants. What do they look like? What designs or accessories (belt, pockets, suspenders) do they have? What materials are	
they made out of? How do they feel? What do you call your Potato Pants?	

Drawn Together

Describe a time you visited your grandparents, other elderly relatives, or family friends. How did you relate to them? What did they do or watch that seemed boring to you? What did they eat that seemed unappealing? What fun activities did you do together? How did you find a way to relate to them?	

Friends and Foes: Write a Poem

Write your own poem about friendship, based on the poems in <i>Friends and Foe Poems About Us All</i> by Douglas Florian. There are lots of aspects of friendship you could explore, such as what friendship is about, what makes people close friends, how you feel when you drift apart or are hurt by your friend, and what you like to do with you friends. Try to write at least two verses of the poem.		

Friends and Foes: Write About Your Best Friend

After reading all the poems in the Red Clover nominee <i>Friends and Foes</i> , write about your best friend (or one of your close friends). What do you like about your friend? What makes you so close? What games do you play together? What does you friend do for you, or how do they help you? How is your friend different or the opposite from you?		

Girl Running: Informative Running Piece

In the Red Clover Award nominee <i>Girl Running</i> by Annette Bay Pimental, we learn how Bobbi Gibb trained for the Boston Marathon. How would you prepare for a b race? What clothing and shoes would you wear? How would you train beforehand? How and what would you stretch?		

Girl Running: Persuasive Writing Prompt

In <i>Girl Running</i> by Annette Bay Pimental, Bobbi Gibb demonstrates why women should be allowed to run the Boston Marathon. Why should women and girls be allowed to compete in the same races as boys and men? Why should they be able to compete in the same sporting events? What evidence can you use from the book to make this argument?

How Does a Predator Move?

The book <i>Hawk Rising</i> , written by Maria Gianferrari and illustrated by Brian Floca, shows how red-tailed hawks move in a variety of ways. The book uses active verbs, many of which end in <i>-ing</i> . Describe how a red-tailed hawk or another Vermon predator moves using some of these verbs. How does it move to look for its prey and hunt? How does it fly or run? How does the animal sit or rest? How do the baby animals move?		

Julián is a Mermaid

In Julián is a Mermaid, a young child is inspired by the participants in the Coney Island Parade and dresses up and pretends to be a mermaid, complete with flowing hair, tail, and pearls borrowed from his grandmother. What did you used to dress up a or pretend to be when you were little? How old were you? What did you wear as this character? What did you do as this character? Where did you get the costume from the did you create it? Why did you want to be this character?		

Misassumptions and Misconceptions

In <i>Potato Pants</i> by Laurie Keller, the main character makes some misassumptions about Eggplant. Have you ever had a misconception about somebody? What was it? Why did you make that assumption? How did it make you feel and act toward that person? How did you learn the truth and realize your
misconception? How did that change you way you treated that person?

Misunderstood Shark and Other Misunderstood Animals

The Red Clover nominee <i>Misunderstood Shark</i> tells about an ocean animal that while carnivorous, has an undeserved reputation. Think of other animals besides sharks that people are afraid of. Why are people afraid of them? How do you think they got their scary reputation? How are they misunderstood? What do you like about these animals? What do you want other people to know about them? How does this make them seem less scary?

Misunderstood Shark: Information about Sharks

The book <i>Misunderstood Shark</i> , while silly, also contains a lot of factual information about sharks. What are some facts you learned about sharks? What do they eat? How much do they need to eat? How many teeth do they have in their lifetime? What is their most acute sense? What information did you already know about sharks?

Research a Wild Animal (Gr. 2-5)

Go online and research a wild animal that lives in Vermont, like the red-tailed hawk described in Hawk Rising. What is the animal's habitat? What does it eat? What are its predators? How big is it? Describe how it moves and what it sounds like. How can people protect this animal?

Website recommendation: https://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/vermont-critters
Then search for your animal on National Geographic Kids:
https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/search-results/

The Day You Begin

The Red Clover nominee <i>The Day You Begin</i> by Jacqueline Woodson is about several students who feel like outsiders and how they find the bravery to connect and tell their stories. When was a time where you felt isolated or left out? Who and what made you feel that way? How did other people treat you? How did you find strength inside yourself to assert your unique voice and experiences? Who or what helped you? How did you feel then?

The Wall in the Middle of the Book

The knight in <i>The Wall in the Middle of the Book</i> has a lot of misconceptions about what is on the other side. Have you ever had any misconceptions or wrong ideas about a place before you visited it? What was the place? What did you think it would be like? Why didn't you want to go there? What did you discover about the place once you got there? How did your opinion of the place change?